

Upper Hay Lake Association Board Meeting Minutes

June 1, 2026

Welcome and Call to Order: 5 pm

Attendance

- Members:
 - Present: Brad S., Claire, Dennis, Brad K., Neil, Greg
 - Absent: Maddie, Whitey, Jack

Reading/Approval of Minutes from Board Meeting on April 27, 2026.

Dennis provided a draft of the Minutes to all Board Members on May 5th requesting review and comments/edits. A final version was provided on May 11th.

A motion to approve and accept the Minutes was made by Claire and seconded by Neil. The motion passed will be posted on the UHLA website.

Treasurer's Report:

Total of \$53,200.00 in checking, savings and CDs.

A bump of \$890 from fees and another \$225 from contributions. Forty members have paid, 22 of these are from the homes at Hay Lake Lodge. Only 18 on the lake have paid so far.

A motion to accept the report was made by Dennis, seconded by Claire. The motion passed unanimously.

Membership

A discussion took place regarding membership. Is it necessary to, once again, go door to door. The Board decided to see what comes out of the annual meeting in three days. Ask those there to approach their neighbors on either side of them to recruit members. After that, it may be justified to send out a reminder email with a membership form to pay the annual dues.

Old Business:

Weed remediation at Hay Creek Outlet

A discussion took place regarding the removal of weeds to clear a 300 foot by 6 foot pathway on Hay Creek from the bridge to Upper Hay Lake. The approximate cost is \$4000 per day for up to five days. In addition, it's a problem if the weeds are downloaded at the public landing, which is on the other side of the lake. The machine does not move fast, and it is very time-consuming to haul a full load to the other side of the lake.

The DNR states that the water flow rate from the dam in Cross Lake to Hay Creek is adequate, so removing the weeds will not increase the flow rate. And the weeds will return, requiring additional funds.

The Board decided not to pursue that it will not move forward with removing the weeds due to the poor cost/benefit factor. The \$20,000 cost for a benefit that is largely aesthetics is not justified. This will be reported to the membership at the annual meeting

Newsletter

Suzy Hurin declined an invitation to become a Board Member and from handling the newsletter. Brad S. will take on the newsletter again. Note that all newsletters are now sent via email as no one was willing to pay the extra \$15 mailing costs. He will work with Brad K. to gain access to Canva and apply for a nonprofit account subscription.

Walleyes restock

Mike Knapp, (Crow Wing Fisheries), had recommended that we stay with stocking our lake with 184,000 walleye fry, which has a five percent survival rate. If not, the next step is to go with walleye fingerlings. These must be purchased through a private fishery, ranging in cost from 50 cents to three dollars, and must be permitted. Knapp had noted that the fingerlings do not have good success rate either and advised it'd likely be a waste of money. However, the bigger fish (5 and 6 inches, costing \$5 to \$7 each) do have a better chance of survival. There are a lot of lakes that stock bigger fish every other year. The Board decided to recommend spending \$2500 to purchase the bigger fish. It will be presented to membership at the annual meeting for a report and a verbal vote.

New Business

- The agenda for the annual meeting taking place on June 4th was discussed.
- The topic of Shoreline Grants was added.
- Volunteers will be requested to fill two open member positions on the Board.
- The renewal for liability insurance policy is due on July 21st. The cost is \$503, an increase of \$57 from the current year.
- A discussion of shoreline restoration was presented by Claire. Kristi Rodell spoke to UHLA two years ago, stating that Upper Hay Lake is very volatile lake because it is so vertical with much washup on the shoreline. There is a project on Whitefish Island involving engineered rip-rap and making root wads out of the fallen trees in the water by cutting them up and pushing them onto the shoreline. If there is anyone on Upper Hay Lake that would like help from Whitefish, they need to notify them by October 1st. This will be presented to the general membership at the annual meeting.

- A possible social event for August 6th was discussed. The Board decided to hold it at Veterans Park in Jenkins, across the street from Shinners. People can bring their own food and beverages, or order from several local vendors. Brad S. will check if a permit is needed. Snarkey's could be used as a backup location. Membership will be asked for input at the annual meeting for a preference.
- Brad S. states that Ideas for the next newsletter are needed.
- A discussion took place regarding improvements at the public landing. The law requires that a Port-a-Potty restroom be handicap-accessible. Volunteers would be needed to do cleanup in the area. This will be discussed at the annual meeting.
- A discussion took place regarding activities for kids at the July 3rd boat parade event. Membership will be asked for ideas at the annual meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.